



MARCH 1964

# TOC H JOURNAL



PUBLISHED BY TOC H AT 15 TRINITY SQUARE, LONDON, EC3

NINEPENCE

# Stirring the Mixture

A Book for Branch Leaders by  
ALEC CHURCHER

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## *Index*

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## *Ourselves*

The Toc H JOURNAL is published monthly eleven times a year. The April issue is a double number and there is no August number. A subscription can commence with any issue and costs only 9s. for a complete year.

N.B.—A price concession to 7s. 6d. per dozen, post free, is made to Branches ordering a minimum of one dozen.

MARCH 1964

FORTY-SECOND YEAR OF PUBLICATION



# TOC H JOURNAL

Letters and articles are welcomed and are printed as individual points of view and are not necessarily those of the Movement

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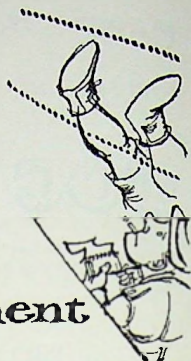
COVER PICTURE: BRANKSOME PIONEERS. Branksome Branch, Dorset, has this youth group, modelled on Toc H lines, meeting weekly in the Branch headquarters. (See "From All Parts" p.110) Photograph by courtesy of "Poole & Dorset Herald".

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# IN AND OUT



## -notes & comment

THE HON. ANGUS OGILVY, our Vice-Patron, paid his first official visit to Toc H Headquarters on the evening of Wednesday, January 15. Some fifty Trustees, Presidents and Vice-Presidents,

**Vice-Patron's visit** members of the Central Executive, Headquarters staff and London Mark Wardens had come from near and far to meet him and to answer the many questions he wished to ask about their various responsibilities. Plainly Mr. Ogilvy is keen to get to know how Toc H works and this gathering was a very happy beginning.

PADRE HERBERT LEGGATE, M.C., has now completed fifty years in the Methodist ministry, a fact that will delight his friends and debtors all over the world. Some may even salute the news in

**Fifty Up** Herbert's own style with an ear-splitting "Glory!" He and his wife Gladys are finding much to occupy their retirement in Northampton and he is greatly in demand by local Methodist churches and Toc H Branches alike.

ONE OF Tubby's recent letters home contains this item from his packed Australian itinerary. "... a wonderful reunion for the weekend on David Hatter's Station. He has now gained a very

**From Australia** wide reputation as Station Manager of this great farm; twenty-five thousand acres, seven thousand sheep, a hundred-and-twenty cattle; four share-farmers. His wife was a trained nurse. Christopher Shearer brought me from Adelaide on Friday, and on Sunday morning at 10.30 I baptised Benjamin James, aged three weeks, in Truro village church, packed with good neighbours and the four grandparents. After the Baptism, we all made our Communion, including Peter Heuzenroeder and his parents. I never had a happier Sunday . . ."



FOLLOWING THE publication in the January JOURNAL of the list of Dor Knap arrangements for this year one young member wrote applying provisionally for a place in two full-week parties and

### **Dor Knap**

#### **Parties**

three week-end parties! Needless to say he had been to Dor Knap before. Individual applications of this kind for places in the centrally-organised parties (printed in heavy type in the January JOURNAL list) are most welcome and the sooner the better. This year there is to be a week-end party at Whitsun (May 15-18) on the theme of 'Looking Ahead' and it is hoped that the extra day may make it specially worthwhile for men living in more distant places. Application for this and other central parties to Alec Churcher at Headquarters. Details of the customary Whit Monday 'Open Day' will be in the April JOURNAL.

IN BYGONE years it has been the practice of our full-time and part-time staff padres to forgather for their own three-day conference. This year, however, they are holding two mid-week

#### **Padre's**

#### **Conference**

conferences at Dor Knap and hope that at each they will be joined by Branch and District padres from all parts of the country. The two dates are April 6-8 and September 28-30 (not October 12-14 as first announced in the January JOURNAL). Padre Bob Knight, Administrative Padre, will be glad to deal with all applications. The one such padres' conference held at Dor Knap last year was a 'full house'.

THE LUNCH CLUB at 42 Trinity Square is one part of the Toc H family around Tower Hill in constant contact with its neighbours. During the week beginning January 13, in the Tate and Lyle

#### **Lunch-time**

#### **Look**

Room, adjoining the dining hall, there was also provided (in the phrase so beloved of Branch Chairmen) much food for thought. An excellent display of photographs, illuminated transparencies, sketches, literature, maps, posters and other items presented an intriguing glimpse of Toc H men and women at work on the Hill and around the globe. Quite a number of diners dallied awhile and members of the men's and women's staff took turns on host duty. Perhaps such aids to digestion could be supplied in other places in Jubilee Year?

THE NEW Loch Eil Management Committee under the chairmanship of the Rt. Hon. JOHN MACLAY, a former Secretary of State for Scotland, held its first meeting recently. There are plans for

#### **Loch Eil**

#### **Progress**

a considerable rebuilding scheme by 1965 to enable courses to take between forty and sixty boys. Of the seven courses planned for 1964 (see January JOURNAL) four of the full-month courses are already fully booked. Due to the rebuilding operations this year's courses will have to be limited to twenty-four boys each.

# Christian Aid

BRIAN FROST

London Area Secretary, Inter-Church Aid

"PLEASE PERMIT ME that I thank you from all my heart. I cannot find words to express my thanks. You have done me so much good, that I must say that up to this time I have never had so much joy in my life . . . Oh how happy I am and my joy has no end!"

"We who have signed below are the dwellers, owners and farmers of the village of Esmatabad who lost all that we had in the earthquake of 10th Shahrivar, and who were continuing our lives in the corners and yards of our ruined homes and in the fields. Sometime ago by means of the Honourable Church Council of Iran steps were taken for the drilling of a deep well and for building modern houses, and the work goes forward with the utmost speed and care so that we are thankful and always will be".

"How I wish I could share more adequately with you the joys expressed as humble African Christians experience real mechanical power in their hands for the first time. Women sing, men nearly weep and they all dance as they see a friend and neighbour astride a tractor doing work which had been so back-breaking before".

These extracts from letters written in the last few years come from very different parts of the world. The first was written by a Russian girl recently re-united with her mother after eighteen years. Her mother had been separated from her daughter at a railway station in Russia during the last war when the Germans rounded up thousands and transported them to Germany to bolster their war effort. The woman, settled in Austria at the end of the war, spent from then until 1960 trying to find out what had happened

to her child. Eventually she found out that she was still alive in Russia and went to the Mayor of her town to ask him to intercede with Mr Khrushchev, then on a visit to Graz. The Mayor was successful in his appeal and mother and daughter were re-united in Graz by Inter-Church Aid.



After the earthquake — Esmatabad

Moslem villagers in the tiny Persian village of Esmatabad wrote the second letter, or rather signed it with their thumb print as most of them have still to learn how to read and write. When a dreadful earthquake hit their country in 1962 they were lying in the sun on the tops of their houses. Hundreds in other villages were killed as their houses and the ground under them collapsed. The villagers in Esmatabad were lucky: very few were killed and now they have moved into new homes built by Christians in Persia with the help of churches in many countries.

The final letter was written by a missionary in Southern Rhodesia who works in an agricultural mission at Umtali. He had just received a tractor sent by Christian Aid to help those on his mission station in their struggle to earn a



living from the soil. They call their tractor "KaChipembere"—"Little Rhino"—for as they say, "It can do anything".

These three stories pin-point the suffering of millions of people like you and I, whose lives are stunted by war, by earthquakes and floods or the perpetual struggle to survive. But the family in Graz, the villagers in Esmatabad and the Africans in Umtali have hope for their future because a few people cared enough to enable Christians all over the world to help them in their need.

How can we help? Each year in the United Kingdom Inter-Church Aid, through Christian Aid Week, focuses our attention on these men and women, like us loved by their families, like us hoping for security and peace. Each year churches in towns and villages unite to remind us of those people who suffer when war wrecks their country or because hunger perpetually holds in check their cry for justice. In this week churches try to involve their neighbourhoods as they tell them what Christian Aid is doing for the neighbourhood of the world.

During the year, too, churches, youth clubs, local groups of bodies like Toc H and the YWCA and many others, help us to remember that while the West gets richer the developing countries are becoming poorer.

No matter what the problem the churches are to be found exposed to those in need around them. They are as exposed as Christ Himself, born in a stable, made to flee to a new country, dying with two thieves outside the city wall. They are exposed because they have learnt that in that suffering person in Algeria or India, Peru or Hong Kong, Christ meets us.

The Samaritan not only cared for his neighbour who fell among thieves: in his caring he was grasped and confronted with the caring of God in Christ.

Christian Aid Week this year is May 25—30. Further details may be obtained from Inter-Church Aid, 10 Eaton Gate, London, S.W.1.



*Osborne Studios (Helston) Ltd.*

Alan Hancock uses his smoking aid

## Alan's Smoking Aid

LIONEL WILLIAMS

SEEING Alan Hancock was always a pleasure to Falmouth members who made their visit each Thursday evening for over four years. Often during the week someone would drop by to say "hello" to Alan and his wife Joyce. Alan is suffering from multiple sclerosis and as a result of his illness is both blind and paralysed. With his very active mind, discussion between Alan and his friends covered a wide range of interests and conversation came easy.

When Alan found it difficult to hold a cigarette to his mouth this active and inventive mind got to work and without the aid of pencil and paper devised a 'smoking aid' to hold a cigarette and prevent any damage by the ash or butt falling onto the bedclothes or into the corners of an armchair. This idea was put into effect and Alan got his 'smoking aid'.

The aid is simple and can be made in any engineering workshop. It consists of a clamp which can be fixed to a table or wooden arm of a chair, to which is affixed a rod and another rod at right-angles let into a sleeve to allow it to be adjusted to any height. The tray is made of brass, and preferably should be a little longer than a normal cigarette. The holder needs to be replaced from time to time and should be flexible; it can be purchased cheaply.

Alan has now been transferred for the time being to Newcourt House, Exeter, where the Exeter Branches will visit him, but before he left the Falmouth Branch members fulfilled a long-felt wish, and initiated Alan as a member of Toc H. Alan's great desire was that his invention should be made available to others in similar circumstances. To this end Falmouth members have prepared detailed drawings which are to be sent to the Cheshire Foundation and other bodies. Branches of Toc H throughout Britain are welcome to use this idea if it would help anyone. A copy of the drawings is available at Toc H Headquarters.

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## “Zulu”

JOYCE GREEN

THE VALLEY of a Thousand Hills in the province of Natal, lies to the south-east of the African continent. This is Zulu country; hot, dry, and dusty with soil erosion, but its vast expanse of veld and sandstone hills has a primitive beauty.

In January 1879 Lord Chelmsford's troops invaded Zululand and were met by the disciplined warriors of King Cetewayo, who after exterminating a force of 1,200 British soldiers at Isandhlwana, marched on to destroy the small contingent garrisoned at the Rorke's Drift mission station.





*Paramount Film Service Ltd.*

**Zulu 'warriors' on location**

The Diamond Films Production *Zulu* reconstructs the story of the defence of the mission station by eight officers and 97 other ranks of the 2nd Battalion, 24th Foot Regiment, the South Wales Borderers against attack after attack by an army of 4,000 Zulus. This gripping story, filmed in the Valley of a Thousand Hills, shows how the defenders under the command of Lieutenant John Chard, Royal Engineers, and Lieutenant Gonville Bromhead, held the station against the fiercest onslaughts till at last the Zulu warriors ceased their attacks and marched back to the hills, after saluting the bravery of their enemies.

In 1965 the Valley of a Thousand Hills will be the centre of the Toc H national Jubilee project. Our aim will be to help rehabilitate African patients from the Tuberculosis Settlement started by Don McKenzie at Botha's Hill, by encouraging them to grow crops which will give them a balanced diet. A visit to the cinema when this film is showing in your area would provide not only two hours of exciting historical entertainment, but an opportunity to see the country where our Jubilee Project will be centred.

# Padres Wanted

BOB KNIGHT

Administrative Padre

IN THE very early days of Scouting there was a troop who met for five years before they discovered there were Scoutmasters, and came to the conclusion they had better get one.

There are resemblances here to the attitude to Branch Padres. Five hundred Branches get along without one. Others appear to be looking for one of the good sports who can be relied upon not to bring up religion when there are strangers present. Still others have one on their roll and keep him only ornamental.

Not that I would dare to hint where the fault lies. If the cadres of Padres I have attended are anything to go by there is misunderstanding on both sides.

At every conference of Padres someone says how much he appreciates Toc H because of the man-to-man basis of the friendship. The Branch is one of the best available insulations against the hazards of the ordained ministry. Another advantage frequently mentioned is the inter-denominational life in Toc H. A conference of Branch Padres may be the only opportunity the men concerned have to meet informally.

From the Branch's point of view, the Padre who is content to be one of the unit, there when he is needed, is part of the intangible force that holds the Branch together.

George was a Branch member whose son appeared in court for pilfering. He confided in the Padre that he felt too ashamed to appear in the Branch. The following Tuesday the Padre made a point of going to the Branch early and, as he expected, the conversation turned to the boy in court. "George is paying a price heavier than the fine. I want somebody to go to his home this evening and fetch him to the Branch". The Padre went off himself on another call: when he returned to the Branch an hour later George was there sitting between the two men who had been to fetch him.

In another place, while the Branch were not meeting in the summer, Tom's wife died suddenly. She was in middle-age; they had no family and might have expected many more years together. Two members took a morning off to go to the funeral, but there was still the question of how Tom would manage. To avoid several members calling on the same evening the Padre was detailed to let the members know how he was faring. Between them they organised his laundry, cleaning and some cooking until Tom was able to make permanent arrangements.

A Branch Padre has been known to turn into a jobmaster overnight. In one of the local hospitals a Padre came across a young widow who was about to be discharged. She was to be reunited with her four children and her only relative was her aged mother. A few of the Branch members organised a collection of some toys and some children's clothing and took them round on the first evening the family were together.

Occasions such as these and others where it would be impossible to relate the story without a breach of confidence have shown both the opportunity and the responsibility of the Padre in the Branch. We know already that the Kingdom of God, whenever it appears in the form of human need, has so narrow an entrance that it is easily missed. No Branch worth the name of Toc H can afford to be without anyone who may help them to see the Kingdom and how it may be entered.



# FAR CRY

## -overseas notes



Contributed by GEOFF MARTIN

### A New Venture

AT ITS last meeting the Action Committee of the Western Province Area in South Africa adopted Ossie Joseph's proposal to investigate the possibility of establishing a centre, possibly at Lakeside, which could be used both for small gatherings of Toc H'sers, and for training courses for youth along the lines of Loch Eil in Scotland.

It was decided as a start to run an experimental course for twenty-four lads of sixteen and upwards spread over three week-ends at monthly intervals. The first course will begin over the week-end from Friday evening March 6 to Sunday afternoon March 8 at the Rotary Camp, Glencairn. The boys will be organised into three teams who, after instruction, will compete in expedition work on the mountain, sailing, first-aid and some form of art. A public service activity will also feature in the course. Each boy will be expected to keep a log.

Each Toc H unit is being asked to find two lads for this course. Some will be selected for their experience, but most simply because they could benefit from an experience which will provide adventure and the opportunity of finding their abilities and learning to use them to the full. It is hoped

that through one or more of the Dutch Reformed Churches we may find another eight candidates.

From KLETS, Christmas 1963



Padre Aroso and some of his people

### English into Yoruba

From the Rev. D. O. Aroso,  
Idanre,  
Nigeria.

Dear Sir,

With much interest I read your article in Yoruba in your July issue of *TOC H JOURNAL*. I thank you for writing something about us in the way you did. The article has encouraged my people so much that we decided to send the enclosed picture. I shall be grateful if the picture can find a place in any issue of your future *JOURNAL*.

I want to thank you for those valuable pamphlets sent to me. As some of my people do not understand English, I have translated some of the pamphlets into Yoruba and Mr. Geoffrey Cleaver helped to reproduce many copies with his cyclostyle apparatus. Those of my people who could not read English find the translated work very-useful, and we are grateful to Mr. Cleaver for this.

We hold our Meetings regularly, and our attendance is encouraging.

Yours sincerely,

D. O. AROSO.

## N'Hliziyyonye

THE FIRST Natal Bantu Toc H Unit has been formed at Illovo in the Kingsburgh District.

The ten pioneers call themselves the N'HLIZIYONYE Toc H Unit—the Zulu name meaning One Heart, One Mind.

Employed in the Human Relations Department of a large firm, they teach other Bantu modern mechanised farming work. They were first to come forward as Blood Donors in their district and have the right Toc H attitude to service.

It is from such dedicated people that sound leadership can come to gently guide their people along Christian Moderation lines and other Toc H units may spring.

Toc H in Southern Africa, builds bridges of understanding and mutual aid between all peoples and classes.

In Natal it founded the first life-saving club (Warnadoone which embodies the Toc H emblem in its badge) the Blood Transfusion Service and Botha's Hill Bantu TB. Settlement.

E. Harvey

## Christmas in Medina, Western Australia

EACH YEAR for the past eight years this Branch has had a Father Christmas distributing bags of sweets to the children in our community on Christmas morning. Last Christmas we had two, as a distribution was also made at Naval Base, a smaller community which, now that a new road has been made, is only a few minutes' away. Bells, horns, klaxons and anything that made a noise was fitted to the transporting vehicles and we have become such an institution locally that numbers of children believe that ours is the one and only Father Christmas. Of course before this can happen the sweets have to be bagged and it is quite an occasion a few nights before Christmas to see our production line in sweet bagging; in this we are helped very ably by the Women's Association. The sweets are all wrapped ones in case the bag breaks when thrown, and as we make up 1750 bags you can guess it is quite a task in itself.

A.R.J.



# Written in Blood

JOHN CALLF

**L**AST MONTH'S STORY of the development of the Blood Transfusion Service in this country, and of how Toc H shared in it, has a splendid parallel in South Africa.

In the mid nineteen-thirties there were in Johannesburg a few professional blood-donors, mostly members of hospital staffs or medical students, but as the use of blood transfusions grew it soon became necessary to draw upon members of the public. Prompted by Toc H the medical students of Witwatersrand University formed themselves into the voluntary Blood Donors' Association, along with Rover Scouts, the Red Cross, St. John's Ambulance Brigade and Toc H, the service being directed from an office in the Medical School.

At vacation periods the majority of the daytime and the night calls fell upon Toc H members in general, and residents of the Toc H Mark in Saratoga Avenue in particular. Eventually the position became so acute that during one vacation Toc H Marksmen were being overworked. The climax came when one particular Marksman was used so frequently that he became ill and was confined to his bed for over a week, purely through weakness caused by too frequent blood donations.

Something had to be done and Toc H, lead by Padre Tom Savage, then Area Padre and now Bishop of Zululand, proposed an organisation very similar to the one run by Toc H in Manchester. A room in the Mark was set aside as an office and a twenty-four hour service was guaranteed—provided that sufficient blood-donors could be recruited and that a full-time clerk could be put in charge.

And now the tale shifts to an entirely different scene, north a few miles to the Westfort Leper Colony just outside Pretoria, which Toc H men and women from outside had been visiting for many years. Westfort contained its own amazing men's and women's Branches and anyone who has read Eddie Lawson's book, *No More Unclean*, will know their unique story.

Back in 1932 a marine engineer on the east coast of Africa, George McDermott, had been given the shattering news that his beloved wife had contracted leprosy. There was nothing for it but to admit her into Westfort and George, of his own free choice, went in with her and from that day although he himself did not have the disease in the eyes of the world he was accounted a leper. Year after year he nursed his wife day and night, cooked for her and fed her when she could no longer do even that for herself. Besides this 'Mac' ministered to many other patients and it scarce needs to be said that he was one of the mainstays of the Westfort Toc H Branch. The visiting Toc H members were astonished at the things he did for the patients, but great though their admiration was, by the rules of Westfort they could not so much as shake him by the hand.

In 1937 his wife died and his five years' vigil was at an end. Michael Westropp, then General Secretary of Toc H Southern Africa and now Vicar of St. Mary's, Windermere, was one of those who wondered what would happen to Mac now. Rachel, Michael's wife, vividly remembers driving over to Westfort the day after the funeral. On enquiring from the Medical Superintendent she was astonished to learn that there was nothing to prevent Mac from being discharged at any time.

Next day Rachel collected Mac and drove him out of the gates of Westfort and they went straight to Pretoria Station to meet Michael who was due back from a Toc H trip. An astonished Michael was able for the first time to shake Mac by the hand and treat him, not as a leper, but a free man. Free for what? Mac was already well on in years and

this sudden, bewildering transition was bound to present problems of readjustment. Michael and others debated.

Then came inspiration. The Rand Blood Transfusion Service needed a full-time clerk to control it. Let Mac have the job; it would be something to occupy his mind; and so Mac moved into a tiny office in the Mark with barely room for a bed, a switchboard and a filing cabinet.

Occupy his mind, did we say? In the first year the list of blood donors rose from four hundred to seven hundred, saving dozens of lives annually, and shortly afterwards the whole organisation moved out to occupy a large block of offices near the General Hospital, complete with medical staff, research laboratories and blood bank.

Mac had found something to do! He did not live for many more years but by the time of his death the Blood Transfusion Service had become a network throughout South Africa, with offices in all the big cities. And all this grew from a tiny room in the Johannesburg Mark, through the work of a man who had lived as an outcast for five heartbreaking years .

---

Ernie says :







## Joyful Noise

THERE IS a rich tradition of singing in Toc H. There is a wealth of song that Toc H has made its own. Both have been neglected in the past decade or so; it is to be hoped that they will be polished up again for Jubilee Year.

A lively vocal and musical expression calls for some good contemporary material. Where are the songs of today to set alongside the traditional treasures? There must be those amongst the membership and friends capable of producing at least a couple of new songs or hymns for use in 1965. Will they now come forward?

It has been suggested that new words to *Land of Hope and Glory* or the *Old 124th* could make good use of good tunes. A modern equivalent of the *Payneham Ditty* could be a best seller. (Overseas Journals please take note!) Dare one hope for a new *Jerusalem*? The Jubilee Secretary will be glad to hear from anyone who can help us to raise our hearts and voices in a new song unto the Lord.

F.C.C.

---

## Re Marks

R. E. PETERS

IN MY LAST contribution I left your animation suspended just as we got down to relationships. These have a two-way stretch. Tubby conceived the Movement as generating from Houses to be constituted on the spiritual basis of the Old House. The Marks have something therefore to give the Movement. But in time the concept of Branches has overtaken the first plan and the Branches have something to give the Marks.

The greater responsibility lies with the Branches, which are not subject to the rapid turnover of chaps which occurs in the Marks and therefore are more experienced. We "pray for ourselves" and in so doing we should remember the Marks, partly as Mother Houses, but more particularly as an integral part of "ourselves".

If you live within twenty miles or so of a Mark your friendship both individually and corporately can be invaluable. You know, from your Toc H Diary, where the Marks are, and their telephone numbers. Any member visiting\*in the vicinity can, in advance, make a date with the Honorary Warden to visit the Mark. Please remember that you are visiting a House which to Marksmen is their home, the home of young men who are less experienced than Toc H members in navigation by Compass. Friendship is communicable and by following the Compass you can help the young Marksmen to maintain the high quality of hostmanship that the Marks themselves like to display.

The Marks are small, as hostels go, and vacant beds mean deficits in working. Our Honorary Wardens are looking for people to build up the fellowship. The Marks are not therefore entirely suitable for week-enders, except ex-Marksmen who can only use week-ends to keep in touch.

The Marks are a Toc H job, remote perhaps but please don't forget them because your mind is occupied with the job your Branch is doing for local folk. Remember them when you have a young friend moving to a place where we have a Mark. If you can be sure that he will support all the things that you stand for the Warden will be glad to have your recommendation, but he has to consider it in the light of any vacancy he may have and the type of man he is looking for to fill it. Notice must be given; how much notice will differ from Mark to Mark and from season to season. Our objective—repetition of this can do no harm—cannot be worked out by casual visitors and even good Toc H members can disrupt if they do not stay long enough for the mixture to be stirred and all that they may have to offer absorbed.

# No Props — No Script!

BOB LESLIE

*An excerpt from a conversation on dramatising Toc H*

*He:* I see from the JOURNAL that you've been trying your hand as a playwright — or is it producer?

*Me:* If you are talking about our effort at Skelmorlie you could also include 'actor'. We put on a couple of simple playlets as a training aid and I took part in one of them.

*He:* Did you have any difficulty getting chaps to take part? It isn't everyone who will take on the job of learning a part in a play, memorising cues and that kind of thing.

*Me:* Of course there was no difficulty; most Branches can produce half-a-dozen men who are game for anything (within reason) and in this case we had no trouble at all in persuading two Branches each to take on a playlet. As for memorising things, this wasn't necessary because there was no script and the actors worked out between themselves who was to speak when.

*He:* And this worked? You were able to get two sets of chaps to get up on a stage and make . . .

*Me:* Sorry to interrupt — there wasn't a stage either!

*He:* All right! I can see that you have hit on some kind of gimmick and are bursting to tell me about it — go ahead then.

*Me:* O.K. But first, it isn't a gimmick but a perfectly legitimate way of putting a message over to an audience. Towards the end of 1962 the Scottish Executive was planning the programme for a meeting



of the Scottish Council to be held in May 1963. The usual pattern for these Council meetings has been for a part of the time to be taken up with a business meeting — sort of AGM — and for the rest of the weekend to discussions introduced by a speaker. On this occasion it was decided to substitute short playlets for the speaker and I found myself landed with the job of presenting them. My first thought was to write full scripts but eventually I decided against this and adopted the system which was used at the Council and later on at Skelmorlie. This was to think up a situation and ask two Branches to each evolve a playlet around it.

*He :* My turn to interrupt, what made you decide *not* to write a script?

*Me :* Partly because I'm an idle man and didn't fancy sitting down and racking my brains to produce characters and then to write speeches for them. But I also felt that some value might be obtained by making those taking part do their own thinking and research and, working as a team, write their own scripts. In the event I don't think anyone actually wrote out what he was going to say. Another factor was the physical lay-out of the conference room in which the Council Meeting was to be held — an awkward E-shape, with no space in which to place a platform or stage. This meant no props, no entrances and exits — once the cast was in position it stayed there until the end of the playlet.

*He :* You had two Branches, each evolving a playlet around the same situation. How did you ensure that they didn't overlap?

*Me :* By asking them to each take on a different aspect. In this particular case one Branch portrayed the nucleus of a projected new Toc H group and they were asked to introduce into their playlet a number of questions — the kind of thing that newcomers to Toc H want

to know. The other Branch was asked to represent the Executive of a well established Branch who discussed, and gave the answers to, the questions asked in the first playlet. Both Branches did a fair amount of work on their preparation, but less than I would have liked. I wasn't able to get to the Council Meeting because it clashed with a Central Executive at Dor Knap so I didn't see for myself how the playlets were put over. However, when I got back to Scotland I was overwhelmed with messages saying that they had gone very well indeed and had provided a very good lead into the discussions that followed. Subsequently there was a repeat performance at Skelmorlie, the report of which you have seen in the JOURNAL. On this occasion Largs Branch took on the part originally played by Selkirk, while Edinburgh's team repeated its original role of the projected group.

*He :* And you're quite satisfied that this is a good way to put Toc H over?

*Me:* Provided it's not overdone. Playlets are regularly used as a training method, in the Services for instance, because they can be used to outline a situation fairly quickly. They can also underline personalities—for instance we were able to introduce a character who never appeared but was firmly fixed in the audience's mind as an enthusiastic but singularly feckless individual who had started the proposed group without being very clear in his own mind what Toc H was about.

*He :* You make it sound fairly easy. Do you think something similar could be tackled by other Areas or Branches who haven't any experience of staging shows?

*Me:* It *is* easy. I think experience is quite unnecessary — and might in fact be a hindrance; I shudder to think what a real dramatist would have thought of the way we put our 'plot' together and then presented it without any sense of dramatic timing and so on. As it

happened moments of drama did emerge — and were handled very well by quite inexperienced chaps. I'm sure it could be tackled by other Branches — I think for instance that it would be an excellent way of presenting Toc H at a Guest-night. If there are any Branches who are interested, I would be quite happy to help out in any way I can. . .

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## Has Toc H a Vocation in Asia?

The following article is reprinted with acknowledgments to "The Link" of Australia. It is written by Padre Leslie Drage, formerly Precentor of St. Andrew's Cathedral, Singapore, who visited Australia early in 1963. For several years Toc H in Australia has contributed generously towards the maintenance of Talbot House and Bob Simmons' outstanding work in Singapore.

**T**HIS MUST BE a vital question to all members in Australia who live in a comparatively wealthy country, with vast resources, whose only anxiety is to populate their great country.

Their immediate neighbours live nearer to Western Australia than their brethren in Eastern Australia; a conservative total of 100 million in Indonesia and soon another 50 million in Malaysia. Our Asian neighbours look towards Australia for technical training more and more and less towards Europe. Many of them think of Australia in the Asian geographical block. Whether Australians can stomach this idea is a matter to be looked into. Over the years there seems to have been built up an east-west mistrust. Only amongst the wealthy is there unanimity of purpose — that to make more money. How strange it is to Australians that Asia mistrusts the west and the curse of racialism is very apparent. The Australian, along with his western brother, is often referred to as a 'red-necked devil'. Sometimes the 'red-necked devils' deserve this title by their very haughty mannerisms and lack of sympathy



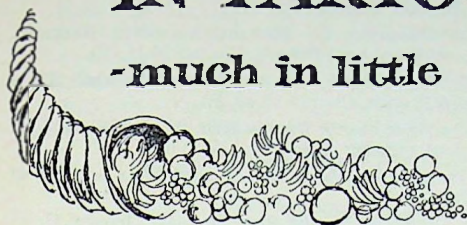
and understanding shown by their behaviour. This may be a superficial outward sign of something that is more tragically wrong. It is possible to argue that a change of mind towards each other is necessary. The mistrust on both sides and the lack of wanting to understand each other's culture has somehow to be overcome. Toc H has the equipment to put this into practice, by educating the Australian public, the European public and if possible the Asian public. "The Four Points of the Compass" have never been so necessary in the furtherance of this important project. If Toc H does nothing else, its vocation to bring about better relationships between east and west will be seen in history as a real contribution towards human understanding.

The work of Toc H in Singapore in this field is difficult, yet most rewarding. For in the one house, 11 Scotts Road, east and west live together in a Christian household; Chinese professor, Malayan students, Japanese businessmen and their English counterparts, young Servicemen, world travellers, Australian technicians, all sharing the same house, the same common table, the same facilities, and all may worship God in the small but serene chapel. This work is carried on under the leadership of Bob Simmons, a man who has lived a life of discipline, and knows what personal sacrifice means. The jobs or projects of Singapore Toc H are colourful, yet arduous. Although small in number, Asian and European members visit the mental homes, the sick and the lonely, the blind and the underprivileged, and are ever ready to help individual people in tragedy – the Indian confidence trickster, the European no-hoper. They assist in raising funds for Cheshire Homes, for World Refugees and numerous church activities. A lively programme each Wednesday evening helps them to understand each other's culture and bring about racial harmony and a furtherance of the truth which comes from a deeper knowledge of God.

Always there is a faithful band of people with the true spirit of Toc H ready to give the warmth of the glow of the lamp to all who wish for help and guidance.

# MULTUM IN PARVO

-much in little



✱ **TUBBY** continues his successful overseas tour and plans to return to the U.K. in time for the Central Council next month.

✱ **ALEC CHURCHER**, Training and Service Secretary, will retire from the Toc H staff at the end of May—after 34 years—to take up a business appointment largely in South and Central Africa.

✱ **PADRE JOHN JONES**, part-time Padre in North Wales since 1961, rejoins the full-time staff in July. As Southern Area Padre, based at Southampton, he becomes a member of the Western Regional Team.

✱ **DOUBLING THE MEMBERSHIP.** District Chairmen please note. The Chairman of the Central Executive looks forward to receiving your progress report at the end of this month.

✱ **EVERY BRANCH MEMBER** should be in possession of a current membership card by the end of March.

✱ **THE CENTRAL COUNCIL** meets in London on April 18 and 19. Branches should invite their Councillors now to meet them soon after then.

✱ **EAST MIDLANDS AREA FESTIVAL** will be held at Melton Mowbray on May 23.

✱ **JUBILEE, 1965.** Dor Knap Weekend Conference September 18-20. The Jubilee Secretary will be glad to hear from any member who is actively involved in Jubilee preparations and who can take part in the above.

✱ **POPERINGE PARTIES.** Notes are available for the guidance of any who are planning visits of small parties of members to Poperinge. Send a card to the Old House Secretary, H.Q.

# Elder Brethren

AYLING.—On January 6, HARRY GEORGE AYLING, aged 71, a member of Callington Branch. Elected 17.6.'55.

BAILEY.—On July 6, FRANK BAILEY, aged 85, a member of Market Bosworth Branch. Elected 1.11.'46.

BALLARD.—On December 26, HORACE AUGUSTUS BALLARD, aged 70, a member of Welshpool Branch. Elected 24.11.'50.

BANYARD.—On October 26, HERBERT BANYARD, aged 43, a member of Stamford Branch. Elected 16.10.'50.

BLACKLEY.—On November 9, VICTOR KEIR BLACKLEY, aged 54, a West Midlands Area member. Elected 8.2.'35.

BOYLE.—On January 4, GEORGE BOYLE, aged 57, a member of Paisley Branch. Elected 6.6.'33.

BRYANT.—On December 15, the Rev. EDMUND GEORGE HUNT BRYANT, aged 81, a member of Hastings Branch. Elected 31.1.'31.

CAIN.—On January 18, WILLIAM ERNEST CAIN, aged 64, a founder member and Pilot of Ruislip Branch. Elected 13.6.'27.

CAUDLE.—On December 15, PHILIP E. CAUDLE, aged 48, a Northern London Area member. Elected 19.11.'46.

DENTON.—In December, DOUGLAS DENTON, aged 52, a member of Chalk Branch. Elected 2.8.'32.

FINNEY.—On January 5, HAROLD FINNEY, aged 69, a member of Llandudno Branch. Elected 13.1.'36.

GOODFRIEND.—On January 8, PAUL P. GOODFRIEND, aged 76, a member of Kendal Branch. Elected December 1947.

HARDY.—On November 7, ALEC HARDY, aged 57, a member of Keighley Branch. Elected February 1939.

HATT.—Suddenly, on December 25, OLIVER ALBERT HATT, aged 54, a member of Chatham Branch. Elected 6.10.'60.

HATTON.—On July 14, WILLIAM JOHN HATTON, aged 68, a founder member of Market Bosworth Branch. Elected 4.9.'46.

JONES.—On December 29, ALFRED VICTOR JONES, aged 46, a member of Barkingside Branch. Elected 1.7.'57.

LAVERACK.—On January 12, ARTHUR DENNIS LAVERACK, aged 84, a member of Ayton Branch. Elected 22.11.'30.

LEE.—On November 22, the Rev. CHARLES IVOR LEE, aged 66, a member of Aston Manor Branch. Elected 24.2.'47.

MARTIN.—On December 17, in New York, U.S.A., FREDERICK JOHN MARTIN, ('Jumbo'), aged 80, a former member of Eastbourne Branch. Elected 17.9.'31.

MASTERSON.—On January 1, ERNEST MASTERSON, aged 71, a member of Great Yarmouth Branch. Elected 28.3.'34.

NOAKES.—On October 22, CECIL H. NOAKES, aged 58, a Sussex Area member. Elected 25.7.'29.



PARKER.—On October 18, SYDNEY J. PARKER, aged 80, a member of Saltash Branch. Elected April 1941.

PARRY.—On December 20, JOHN EDWIN PARRY, aged 88, a founder member of Mold Branch. Elected 29.3.'33.

PEGG.—On December 24, JAMES HENRY PEGG, aged 68, a Notts. & Derby Area member. Elected 1946.

POPE.—On December 21, ARTHUR REGINALD POPE, aged 70, a member of Burraton Branch. Elected September 1954.

RATCLIFFE.—On December 23, FRANK W. RATCLIFFE, aged 55, a founder member of Market Bosworth Branch. Elected 4.9.'46.

WILLSHER.—On January 23, CHARLES WILLSHER, aged 73, a member of R.H.H.I. Branch. Elected 22.9.'55.

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## In Memoriam

### WILLIAM ERNEST CAIN

Medium height, sturdy, spectacles, auburn hair which went well with his rather aggressive look, that was the outward appearance of Bill Cain, known throughout the Western London Area and beyond. His looks belied him for at heart he was always kind, considerate and peace-loving.

Bill first met Toc H in the Old House during his service in the first World War, and his faith and love for the Movement never waned. As a founder member of Ruislip Branch, with spells at Blackpool, Llandudno and Cheltenham during the last War, he was a dynamic force in Toc H for over thirty years. He was the ideal chairman of a meeting, be it Branch, District or Area and although holding strong views he could speak with equal facility on either side of a debate.

A Manxman, and very proud of it, he was a past president of the London Manx Society. As a Civil Servant Bill organised Treasury training courses, and I am told he conducted them like a Toc H meeting. His enthusiasm and optimism must have inspired his trainees who came from all parts of the Commonwealth. A number of Toc H staff men were by special privilege allowed to attend some of these courses, with great benefit.

He took an active interest in local affairs, particularly in voluntary work among youth, the aged, handicapped and blind, and did great work as Chairman of the revived London Toc H Rugby Club.

Bill was Branch Pilot when he joined the Elder Brethren on January 18, after an illness courageously borne. A light has been taken from us, yet certain it is that the radiance which he shed will for long be shining in our hearts. J.A.C.

## FREDERICK JOHN MARTIN

'Jumbo' Martin was that rare individual, a man who achieved a full and happy life without ever striving for success as the world knows it. A jobbing carpenter by trade, he must never have scraped up more than a bare living, but managed to amble through life seemingly as untroubled as the amiable animal after which he was so aptly nicknamed. For about thirty years he was a staunch supporter of the Eastbourne Branch and, before his mobility was impaired, was a regular attendee at Branch meetings and a willing helper on any job. It was characteristic of his wholeheartedness in the Movement that he always wore a Toc H blazer and tie. A keen sportsman in his youth and highly regarded as a water polo player, in later years his great love was cricket. He was well-known locally as an umpire and for as long as he could stand (literally) could be seen most summer afternoons officiating on the Saffrons at games ranging from scratch boys' club matches to those involving nationally famous players. Another favourite pastime was choral singing and for some fifty years he 'made the rafters ring' at the Presbyterian Church. Local history also engaged his attention, particularly that concerning Sussex smugglers, with one of whom he claimed a distant kinship. When his wife died two or three years ago he went to live with his daughter in America but sorely missed the sights and sounds of his native corner of England. As an exponent of Toc H fellowship 'Jumbo' was a 'natural'. He had no enemies.

M.S.

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## LANGDALE WEEK 1964

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS are invited to join a Lake District walking party, staying at Langdale Estate, near Ambleside, for the week June 20-27. We usually get to the top of one or two high peaks and slightly less energetic alternatives for novices are laid on, with experienced leaders. Advice on footwear etc. is circulated in advance.

The full cost of accommodation (Grade A barrack-room type) and food (which is more than adequate) is £5 7s. 6d. Sharing of transport to and from Langdale can often be arranged.

Further particulars from: Bob Foxcroft, 106 Gawsworth Road, Macclesfield, Cheshire. Telephone: Macclesfield 4766.

# Sleeping Partners

JOHN CALLF

AS TRAINING becomes an increasingly popular word in Toc H more and more members are going off to Dor Knap and other places for weekend or full-week training courses.

We share bedrooms with total strangers or with members we thought we knew quite well and in this close companionship we discover things about them that we never knew before. As a rule this only increases our respect for them and leads us to rejoice in the rich diversity of talents within the Toc H Family, but against these welcome revelations we must admit that in the long watches of the night it is sometimes brought to our unavoidable notice that some of our most admired brethren are shocking snorers.

There is little one can do to cure snoring, so any research on the subject is likely to be mere waste of effort. Nevertheless it is interesting to consider one's own experiences over the years.

Parsons seem to be more frequent offenders than laymen; at any rate that is my experience. I wonder if there is any significance about that. Is it their collective unconscious taking revenge on laymen for dozing off at wrong times and in wrong places?

Some of us went over to Poperinge a few years ago to start the World Chain of Light and maintain the Vigil. We arrived on the Friday evening and as the Vigil was not to begin until the Saturday night we all retired for a full night's rest. One of the bedrooms contained three of our party, including one clergyman, and I have never seen two



more distraught laymen than emerged the following morning. Wild-eyed, they conveyed that they had not enjoyed their unscheduled vigil nor had they felt much benefit of clergy. Morale had to be restored by arranging for the penitent priest to have a room to himself.

At a weekend conference in Australia I once shared a room with about five other members. I am usually a very heavy sleeper and it takes a lot to bring me to the surface, but on this night I grew dimly conscious of a general scuffling about the room, a man's voice singing, a light switched on, and agitated stage-whispering. The singing stopped, the light went off, and I resumed full sleep, but a little later it happened again and this time I sat up to find out what was going on.

Apologetically a pyjama-clad deputation explained that the oldish member in the opposite bed was given to singing in his sleep. His singing was loud and clear, and his repertoire was of ballads that his father used to sing way back in his boyhood days in Victorian England. That night we had "The Sunny Banks of Mandalay" and we of the audience were unanimously against any encores.

Next morning they told me of his similar behaviour at another conference. One desperate member tried to stop the performance, without getting out of bed, by throwing his clothes, shoes and all, one after another at the singer. Finally he threw his alarm clock which crashed against the wall. The singer continued his song but the clock never went again.

But reverting to snorers, there is not much one can do about them, though a knowledgeable leader can arrange to put them all together in one room and let the worst man win.

Perhaps we might organise a special Dor Knap conference for snorers only. With the use of tape-recorders we could record the performance and under some such title as "Nights of Glottis" it should sell quite well.

YES!



OPEN

HUSTINGS

-readers' letters

NO!



## The Old House and Dor Knap

THE LETTER from Sid Thresher in the December JOURNAL is interesting reading about the new exciting developments concerning the younger Belgians of Poperinge; but to say that these indicate "the sure closing of the gap between Roman Catholics and us Protestants" which was his "very deep impression" is surely saying a bit much. There is nothing new about Roman Catholics working with others who are not of their persuasion on some worthwhile project; but if ever the suggestion was made at Poperinge or Dor Knap to jointly participate in Holy Communion, "the gap" would certainly be there.

Incidentally, why does Sid use the term "us Protestants"?

If he is including the Church of England in this all-embracing term, he should refer to the Book of Common Prayer. He will find no reference to Protestants, but he will to the Holy Catholic Apostolic Church.

CHARLES JACKSON

Thornton Heath, Surrey.

## Talking Toc H

OVER THE morning coffee my workmate and I talk of many things—"Of shoes and ships . . .", of my Church and his Toc H. One day I said to him, "I think there is a Toc H Branch somewhere in my district but I have never heard of them". With my agreement he addressed the following to headquarters. "Mr. R.H.W. of Woodford Bridge believes there is a Branch somewhere near but has never heard of them. Can you send a local bod. to make contact?"

Some days later I received a phone call from a member of the Church up the hill, a Mr. H.S. whom I had known for many years—as Mr. H.S. When Church business was finished Mr. H.S. said to me "Well, Rowland, I believe you want to know about Toc H".

Thus Toc H was able to introduce me to someone whom I had known previously only as a name on the Church Members' list, but I now know him with the friendship that is . . . Toc H.

R. H. WELLER

Woodford Bridge, Essex.

## Why this Segregation?

**D**URING THE nine years that I have been in Toc H I have successfully refrained from enlarging your Open Hustings, but now you have provoked me beyond endurance. The last straw was the patronising article in the December JOURNAL on "Our Better Halves". When you combine this with the nonsense that "the present set-up is ideal"—an opinion of a member at Woking, one cannot help wondering whether Toc H is any longer a forward-looking Movement. We may be reckoning nothing of the world's opinion, but equally we seem to be failing to listen now and always for the voice of God, to know His Will revealed in Christ and to do it fearlessly.

Do we think of women [as second-class citizens in this our family of Toc H? Why should two organisations using the same name, holding the same principles, performing the same functions continue to have two separate administrations? Some of us are aware that there are even Central Councillors and members of the staff who think that masculinity is the prime qualification for being Toc H-minded. It is only an historical accident that brought Toc H to birth during the 1914-18 war; this generation is no longer one for men only or for women only.

We need not always be chasing after some new thing, but let us not be hidebound to a tradition of decreasing value today.

CAESAR O. MAGUS

*Chelmsford, Essex.*

## Approach to Youth

**I** WOULD like to re-inforce the argument put forward by John Dessauer and Tim Greenacre in the January JOURNAL.

On a recent trip to the Southern Area I was privileged to be able to spend an evening with the Branksome 'Pioneers'. Many people seem to be under the impression that this group of young people is a Toc H unit, similar to the Weymouth Pioneers—this is not the case. The Branksome Pioneers is an ordinary Youth Club that just happens to be run by local Toc H members (men and women together) and meets in the Branch room. Some evenings it is just 'pop' music and the 'shake'; at other times speakers come in; and when I was there the boys were looking forward to the next talk, called, 'Know your motorcycle', while the girls awaited a talk on 'Make-up' by Max Factor.

The Toc H members I met agreed that the youngsters made a bit of a mess, and certainly the vitality and noise was not calculated to let sleeping dust lie! The point, however, was that, quite apart from the value of the club itself, three or four of the youngsters had already joined the local Toc H Branch, and among the rest of the young people the general feeling was that Toc H people were 'fun', and that Toc H, as far as they could judge, was a good thing. They seemed quite happy to be called the 'Toc H Pioneers'. Perhaps this was because, in the words of one girl, "... the Toc H is so much more friendly than the other clubs".

*London, E.C.3.* JOHN MITCHELL



## Prisoners of Conscience

MOST Toc H members would, I think, be concerned if physical slavery were rampant today in the world. Fortunately, this exists in only one or two isolated instances.

However, there is a more insidious form of slavery existing today, the shackling of the mind.

In many countries freedom to exercise one's beliefs or convictions, religious, political or philosophical are being stifled by imprisonment in one form or another, where these run contrary to the views held by the reigning government.

There is, though, a body of enlightened opinion working against this kind of oppression, an organisation formed only two years ago, and known now as Amnesty International. This movement endeavours to obtain the release of people who, after a careful investigation, can rightly be described as "prisoners of conscience".

Amnesty International operates through "Groups of Threes", so called because they are allotted three prisoners on whose behalf they write letters to the Governments concerned, or in some cases a delegate will visit a country on a prisoner's behalf.

To anyone wishing further information, the address of Amnesty International is 1 Mitre Court Buildings, Temple, London, E.C.4, where inquiries would be welcomed.

S. WOODALL,  
*Whipton, Exeter.*

## Ball at our Feet

THE JOURNAL has been generous in space devoted to matters relating to extension, membership increase and publicity of the right kind. In relation to the latter the recent concert at the Manchester Free Trade Hall arranged by the Festival of Music Committee of the Manchester Area illustrated the value to be gained in this important field.

With a seating capacity of 2,300 fully occupied, and a standing ovation as a finale, Toc H was really on the map. Several letters to the press have since voiced appreciation in no uncertain way. One thing is certain, the public is loaded in goodwill for us. To use an expression, the Movement has the ball on the penalty spot. The will to score in a big way is there.

The members must reach to it right now. Not to wait for pie in the sky of Jubilee year and its trimmings. The hole-in-a-corner days, the lofts in back streets and the complacent dreams of yesteryear must be consigned to mental dustbins. Whether it is personal introduction, leaflet raids or barefaced propaganda doesn't matter a d-m if it suits the local requirement.

We shall stand or fall in the next two years but whatever happens the spirit remains and is indestructible. The spirit of our 13,600 membership is sufficient to revitalize the good work and carry on the tradition for many decades at least.

Cheadle Hulme, BILL CAPPER  
*Cheshire.*

# FROM ALL PARTS

## -area news



### SOUTH EASTERN LONDON

The recent Missionary Dinner of the United Christian Service Mission shows how important things can grow from small beginnings. Five years ago Laurie Broad, a member of BEXLEYHEATH Branch, began to collect unwanted spectacles and to send them abroad to be made up for use by people suffering from the eye troubles common in tropical countries. By now he has despatched over 57,000 pairs and the problem now is that of meeting the ever-rising expense of despatching the spectacles rather than the problem of collection. This is a good example of how a Toc H job has involved other individuals and organisations, in this case the Old Age Pensioners' Federation and the Royal Society for the Blind, in the work of Toc H.

JOHN GINGELL

### MANCHESTER AND NORTH WESTERN

MARK IV must be one of the livelier Marks, in the physical sense at any rate. Their football team is ready to take on all-comers and weekend walks in Derbyshire and Lakeland are a regular feature. They are planning a weekend walk in March at which they hope all the Northern Marks will be represented.

WEST KIRBY BEACON have formed a local branch of The Abbeyfield Society. Started in Bermondsey in 1955 the Society is concerned with the problems of old age and loneliness, especially "those who cannot remain entirely independent, yet at the same time do not wish to be wholly dependent". A strong, representative local committee has been formed and in due course a house will be found, altered, equipped and opened. Since 1959 branches have been formed in over 150 cities and towns and these in turn are helping over 750 old people from all backgrounds. We will be hearing a lot more about this very worthwhile project.

JACK SHAW



*North Norfolk News*

Sheringham members deliver a Christmas Eve parcel to an old lady.

## LONDON

Two Areas in London—Northern and Western—are shortly embarking on the New Leadership Experiment. Their Area Executives are being suspended and the main responsibilities taken over by fewer but larger District Teams. The re-grouping of Branches has brought Uxbridge back into Western London, a return to civilisation after nine years in the wilderness (if we may so refer to Oxford & Thames Valley Area!) We welcome Uxbridge back warmly but fear we must be pretty unpopular in O. & T.V., since this is now a thriving Branch of three times its former membership. The mobile Area Teams and the first District Officers under the new regime have now been chosen and we wish them a successful first year in office.

This decentralisation is likely to have a profound effect and we hope it will result in the strengthening of many Branches and the development of fresh leadership at District level. Above all we hope it will result soon in new men being brought into Toc H, for there is a growing realisation in London that a substantial increase in membership is the best possible Jubilee Project for any Branch.

We hope there will be some new Branches, too. John Dessauer, the latest recruit to the Toc H Staff, is working with us and has a special responsibility for extension in Inner London, where we have got so thin on the ground. It won't be an easy job but we wish him the satisfaction which comes from quick results—or at least, if that is not granted, as much patience as may be necessary.

MAYNE ELSON





*Kent and Sussex Courier*

The Wadhurst Toc H first team.

## KENT

Wadhurst is a village, population about 3,500, on the Kent and Sussex Border. Wadhurst Toc H Football Club was formed about nine years ago from our Toc H Boys' Club. Some of the boys, led by Roy Wilcox, asked the Branch if we could give them some help and cash to start a Minors' football team. Toc H held a jumble sale and gave the boys a new football, £7 15s. 0d. and our blessing. The boys asked the Branch if they could call themselves Toc H Minors Football Club and the Branch gave them permission, provided they would not let the name of Toc H down.

The first year the team hardly won a game, it was an event if they made a draw. But the team kept together and worked hard training and raising funds for the Club. From that time they have never looked back. They have won the Tunbridge Wells League Sportsmanship Cup twice, and the Hailsham League Sportsmanship Cup once.

There are now three teams, first, second, and Minors. All teams are drawn mostly from the Toc H Boys' Club. The boys that started the club are now young men and still play in the first team.

They now have to raise about £200 a year to run the club and this year they have joined the East Sussex League. There are four Toc H members serving on the football committee. When, recently, the Toc H team met the other Wadhurst club there were four hundred people on the touchline for this 'local Derby'. Fog stopped play with Toc H losing!

When the team first started the players said they would not have anything to do with girls until they were thirty-eight, and too old for football, but needless to say this resolution was soon broken, and soon they had female fans on the touchline. There are now three members married!

Wadhurst Toc H are proud of these boys; they are a grand lot. In these days when we hear so much about the younger generation, Wadhurst Toc H Football Club just shows what can be done by hard work, hard training and good team spirit, given a little encouragement from the older generation.

GEORGE BAKER



*Bournemouth Evening Echo*

**Bournemouth and Boscombe footballers visiting one of their supporters in hospital**

### SOUTHERN

Our congratulations and good wishes go to the EASTLEIGH Joint Branch who recently received their Lamp at a special service held in the Eastleigh Baptist Church. The preacher at the service was the Administrative Padre, better known to many in the Area as Bob Knight. The members of the Branch are very proud that they have been allowed the privilege of especially associating their new Lamp with the name of Marjorie Davis. One of the last visits that Marjorie was able to make in the Southampton District was to spend the evening with the group, and all remember the occasion as one of the mile-stones in their growth.

Our BOSCOMBE Branch, like many other Branches in all parts of the country, are responsible for the relay of live commentaries of football matches to their local hospitals. In Boscombe this has indirectly brought into being another worth-while job which is now being carried out by members of the Boscombe Football Club.

It started from a news item in the local paper, which stated that Toc H members were visiting patients who had no visitors. Seeing this, and knowing that Toc H also ran the Football Commentaries, the captain of the team contacted Toc H and suggested that he and other members of the team would be prepared to visit any of the club's supporters who happened to be in hospital. This good offer was announced over the relay system on the following Saturday, and names were sent to the players. It is hoped that this will become a regular feature for local soccer fans who are laid aside in hospital and that it will also be possible to extend the visits of the local Stars to the children's wards.

Another Pioneer group has started up in the Area, this time at Branksome in Dorset; it follows closely the pattern of the group in Weymouth; it is a joint group and consists of young people who are following out the ideals of Toc H in their own way. There are over forty members in the group, and they have been proving themselves by working together in a local hostel for elderly people, by clearing and digging an overgrown garden, and by assisting the Branksome Branch with the children's home outings and various other jobs. They have also arranged outings to places of interest such as the telephone exchange, power station, and fire station, and to an engineering works.

FRED BROOKER

## WESTERN

Last month's cover picture in the JOURNAL showed young people cutting up logs in Bristol's largest park. The story behind this is that the Western Area Secretary, having secured the support of the Park Superintendent, approached the City Planning Officer and within eight days had obtained the go-ahead from the Planning Committee. All the fallen timber was to be made available and each Saturday groups of young people gathered at Ashton Court to collect and cut logs for old people. All the tools were supplied and when the party was there for the whole day Civil Defence workers supplied tea for all at sandwich lunch time. Workers were drawn from schools, clubs and the University. Other societies sent young people; the local I.V.S. were much involved. Distribution has been dealt with by Toc H, Round Table and others. Here is one more way of working with other societies for the benefit of the old. Some thirty young people have turned out each Saturday and all have seemed to enjoy the effort. It is possible in this job to supply all the needy old folk in Bristol with logs for the fire this winter.

SWINDON District in common with other Districts are devoting part of each meeting to thinking and plans for the Jubilee. A number of ideas are in circulation and some of these will soon be on paper as definite commitments. Extension is on at Wanborough and in a new housing estate. The latest extension at Uffington is going well and the group organised the first ever party for old people in the neighbourhood; some eighty old folk had a very enjoyable time. BATH Branch have started a Hospitals Broadcasts Service and the least of their troubles is money; when the need is there, the money comes.



GLOUCESTER District's "Raid the Larder" scheme has assumed very large proportions; some thirteen hundred old people received a parcel. The number of friends who helped in this job was to the members very encouraging. An obvious Jubilee project would be to get co-ordination of all old peoples' work in Gloucester. WEST MENDIP District's "H for help" scheme is being operated in co-operation with the local Old Peoples' Welfare Committee and thereby many more are taking part. GLASTONBURY Branch are organising a Citizen's Advice Bureau.



*Cheltenham Newspapers Co. Ltd.*

**Cheltenham members were hosts to their families and friends  
on New Year's Eve**

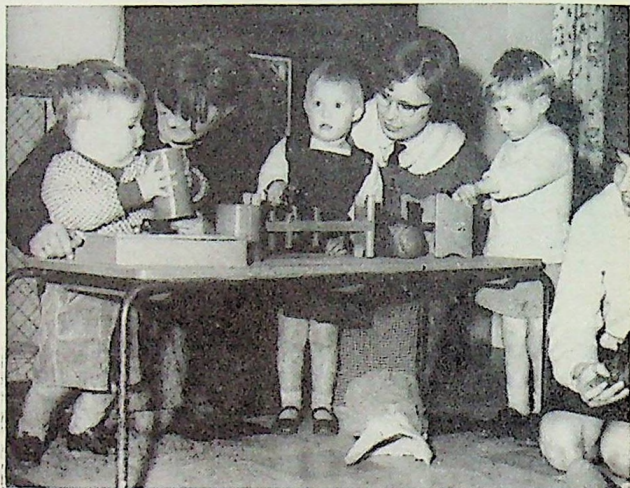
In the BRISTOL District as in most in this Area we are working more and more with the Women's Association. The Toc H Joint Service Unit, instead of the usual party for some forty old people found that this year that part of the family had grown to a hundred. A very good co-operative job; not only do Branches get together on this but many friends also help with transport, catering, decorating and with fun and games. Young and old help, some young men from an approved school blew up a hundred balloons. Gifts and entertainment of a high order made this a memorable party.

JOHNNIE MACMILLAN

## NORTHERN

Way back last October, Toc H on Teeside was faced with a rather wholesale demand for 'jobs'. It came from the students of the Stockton/Billingham Technical College who are encouraged to give practical expression to their Social Studies Group. The link was first created by the local Branch and a tutor at the College. The

request was something of a 'shatterer' but quick work by the Branches in the District produced a sizable list of jobs to put before the students at a session in the College when Toc H was talked about and discussed. Oddly, the main response and enthusiasm comes from the young girl students; the boys have yet to make their mark. Some of the practical results include half-a-dozen girls attending each Monday night at a social club run by Toc H for mental patients at St. Luke's Hospital, Middlesbrough. Alternating groups of four students go weekly to the Hartburn Children's Home to play with the children and help make tea, wash hands and all the small chores that are important. Two more give help on a hospital trolley, while three others put their names down for cleaning windows at some almshouses in Norton. Many other outlets were suggested—decorating homes, visiting old folk, help with the deaf and dumb, though we have yet to hear that these have been taken up. A staff change at the College had disrupted the effort slightly but a new teacher has taken over and made contact with the Branch and is keen to follow through and get the practical work firmly attached to their Studies Group.



*Evening Gazette, Middlesbrough*

**Students Thelma Halfpenny, Christine Lowes and Christine France help during playtime at Hartburn Children's Home.**

On a new housing estate not far from the above, the new group at Berwick Hills (Middlesbrough) went into partnership with the local Community Centre and put on a most pleasant social evening for members of the Centre, people living on the estate and, of course Toc H members and friends. It was a first rate evening, just the kind of informal affair that Toc H can do so well. LES WHEATLEY



# Journal Smalls

Small Advertisements must be received (with remittance) by the first day of the month preceding publication. The charge is 6d. a word (minimum 6s.). Editorial Office: Toc H, 15 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3.



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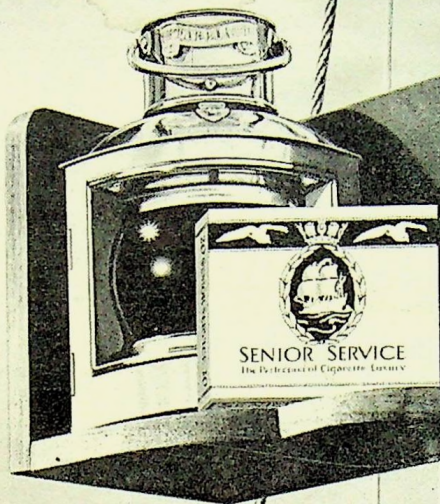
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